

# The Groundplane

SBARA—South Bay Amateur Radio Association  
Newsletter

May, 2013  
Volume 13, Issue 5



## What's Blowing in the Wind for Field Day

Could it be change? Well you guessed it; change is in the wind for 2013 SBARA Field Day. The planning committee has decided to replace the evening potluck with a picnic on Saturday between 12 noon and 2pm. One major factor was the Fremont wind that reaches its peak at 5pm right when we are starting the potluck. For those of you who attended last year's potluck you probably remember the 'flying paper tablecloths'.

The club will bring in picnic type entrées such as BBQ pulled pork or sliced beef brisket with all the fixings. Drinks, plates and flatware will be also provided.

Just bring yourself and a chair for each member of your family...remember, it will be a picnic and more informal than the potluck dinners. Any suggestions for the food or any other item for the picnic is welcomed by the Field Day planning committee. Send your ideas to [wt6k@arrl.net](mailto:wt6k@arrl.net).

Read the Groundplane and the monthly e-mail notifications for more Field Day details.

73,  
Al, WT6K



## In This Issue

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## Highlights

Getting a Transmission Cable in the Shack?  
CS and SSB Nets—When do they Occur?



## FIELD DAY is Fast Approaching

It's that time of year again. Yes, Field Day is next month, June 23rd and 24th (Friday the 22nd start the antenna, tent and equipment setup). It is the biggest event of the year for all SBARA members, their family and friends. Station philosophy we used last year, i.e., one station per band...running high power (QRO). We would like our Membership to sign-up to configure and operate a Station I.E. Station Chair. So please come to operate at the 2013 SBARA Field Day.

## May Contests

These are the contests for the Month of May 2013

Contesting is lots of Fun !! Have you given it a try? It is as easy in most cases reply with your Call sign and a Signal Report—of course it varies for each contest be sure to listen before you pounce on the calling Station!!



## Ham Tests

Exam sessions are conducted by SBARA VE volunteers working under the direction of the FCC. There is a charge for taking the exam. The exam fee is set by the Volunteer Exam Coordinator. SBARA's Fee is \$15.00

## May Contest Corral

+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, May 8 to 0400Z, May 9
EUCW Fraternizing CW QSO Party	1000Z, May 11 to 2000Z, May 12
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, May 11 to 2359Z, May 12
CQ-M International DX Contest	1200Z, May 11 to 1159Z, May 12
+ VOLTA WW RTTY Contest	1200Z, May 11 to 1200Z, May 12
FISTS Spring Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, May 11
+ His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	1200Z, May 18 to 1200Z, May 19
Baltic Contest	2100Z, May 18 to 0200Z, May 19
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, May 20
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, May 22
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, May 22 to 0400Z, May 23
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 25 to 2400Z, May 26
+ MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint	2300Z, May 26 to 0300Z, May 27

***SBARA is an ARRL VE and our VEC Examiners Administer License Exams for your Upgrade! Every month tests are given. See Dates listed Below!***

## SBARA VE Testing Schedule

Exams will be administered at Hurricane Electric, The address is—48233 Warm Springs Blvd., Fremont. Contact: Greg Miller, wy6p at arrl dot net for info. \$15 fee, bring a photo ID. Walk-ins allowed!

### Tri-City VE Session Dates 2013

Sat May 11, 2013, 9:00 am – 11:30 am  
Tue Jun 11, 2013, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm  
Sat Jul 13, 2013, 9:00 am – 11:30 am  
Tue Aug 13, 2013, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm  
Sat Sep 14, 2013, 9:00 am – 11:30 am  
Tue Oct 8, 2013, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm  
Sat Nov 9, 2013, 9:00 am – 11:30 am  
Tue Dec 10, 2013, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm



## Question, how to get coax into the shack without drilling a hole in the roof?

On the underside of the roof drill a 5/8" hole at a 45 angle pointing up.

Using a metal coat hanger, or something similar, pull the coax through the drilled hole. You will need an assistant to feed the coax. Tie the coax down to prevent movement and seal the hole around the coax with RTV.

Getting the cable to the rig is your second challenge but if you're lucky you might have a cold air return vent mounted high in the ceiling.

Remove the vent and drill a hole through the stud. Feed the cable through the stud after you cut a small hole about a foot off the floor to feed the cable through. Before you cut the hole visit your local home improvement store and select the cable feed through grommet of your choice.



How Do I get a Transmission line into my Shack without drilling hole in the Roof?

**Answer**—Thru a Roof Vent!!

The South Bay Amateur Radio Association., is a general interest amateur radio club serving the Fremont Tri-City area. Records indicate the club has been in existence since at least 1974, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, an California not-for-profit corporation, and a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Statutes.

We sponsor training classes for new hams, license examination sessions, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

The South Bay Amateur Radio Association meets on the 2nd Friday of every month at Hurricane Electric in Fremont. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM and includes social time, a business portion and a program of interest.

## Android Apps

All joking aside, this time you will understand how electronic circuits work.

"I stumbled upon some serious gold" - GeekBeat.tv

"This app takes design to a whole new level of interactivity" - Design News

Build any circuit, tap play button, and watch dynamic voltage, current, and charge animations. This gives you insight into circuit operation like no equation does. While simulation is running, adjust circuit parameters with analog knob, and the circuit responds to your actions in real time. You can even generate an arbitrary input signal with your finger!

Local nets are those which cover small areas such as a community, city, county or metropolitan area, not a complete ARRL section  
SBARA operates both a CW Slow-Speed Net and a Single-Sideband Net each week for users to check into!

## Every Circuit

I know there are few of you out there who design or modify electronic circuits for radios or accessories. I just ran across a new tool for those of you with Android driven Tablet PCs. You may be familiar with "Spice" as a circuit modeler. This software allows you to create circuits and test them before you ever run to your junk box or the store to find components. Not a bad idea?

Check out "[Every Circuit](#)" by Muzemaze. Yes, it is an "app."

There are some other apps there as well.

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## Are you looking for your favorite Repeater? Here is information you can use!

WA6PWW— 147.015 + 600Khz, PL 103.5	PL 123.0
WA6PWW—223.900— 500Khz, PL 107.2	K6AIR—441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0
WA6PWW—442.600 +5Mhz, PL107.2	ARES Net Meeting—Tuesday Evenings @ 7:30pm on 147.015+600Khz, PL 103.5
K6AIR—146.940—600Khz,	



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## **SBARA Weekly Nets—Voice and CW Action!!**

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### **Monday SBARA Net**

The SBARA net is taking place....

Every Monday night at 7:30 pm on the WA6PWW (currently N6IMS) repeater, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, PL (if enabled) 103.5 Hz.

Topics are club related things, projects you're working on and so on. It's a chat net.

**We need net control operators.** If you'd like to be net control, let us know during the next net.

—... ...--

Bernhard AE6YN

### **The Slow CW Net Takes Place**

Every Thursday and Sunday night at 7:30 pm,  
Thursday on 144.230 MHz  
Sunday on 7.057MHz +/- 3 kHz

You need an “all mode” (i.e. not just an FM) radio in order to follow.

The net has now its own e-mail address. Please contact us here:

“SF Bay CW Enthusiasts” <sf-bay-cw-enthusiasts at googlegroups.com>

—... ...--

Bernhard AE6YN

### **Dayton Events**

Watch the Road Trip to Dayton....LIVE on the internet!



Dayton Hamvention Radio Ad





## Upcoming SBARA Events

### **N2013 SBARA Kick-Off Action Packed Meeting**

**May 10th, 2013 at 7:30pm  
Hurricane Electric, Fremont**

### **Amateur License Exams**

**ARRL VEC– May 11th @ 9:00 am at  
Hurricane Electric – 48233 Warm Springs  
Blvd. Fremont.**

**Contact:** Greg, wy6p at arrl dot net for info. \$15 fee.

South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA

The Ground Plane — KU6S

<http://www.sbara.org>

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